

ILLINOIS FARM REPORT



ILLINOIS
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ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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The staff of the Illinois Agricultural Statistics Service would like to thank all of the Illinois farmers and ranchers that responded to the March Crops/Stocks Survey, the March Hogs and Pigs Survey, the March Milk Production Survey and the January Sheep and Lambs Survey.

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS FOR 2005



Farmers in **Illinois** intend to plant a record 12.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2005, up two percent from the acres planted in 2004. Acreage planted to corn since 1996 has ranged from a low of 10.6 million in 1998 to a high of 12.0 million for this year's estimated acreage. Farmers have recently been busy applying anhydrous and doing other early spring tillage work as field conditions were mostly favorable.

This crop year begins with **soybean** producers intending to plant 9.7 million acres, down 250 thousand acres from last year and the lowest acreage planted to soybeans since 1994. Acreage planted to soybeans over the last ten years has ranged from a low of 9.75 million in 1995 to a high of 10.7 million in 2001. Due to the discovery of Asian soybean rust in the United States, 12 percent of farmers in Illinois reported that Asian rust was a factor in their soybean planting intentions. Of those farmers reporting that Asian rust was a factor in their planting intentions, four percent intended to plant more soybeans, 58 percent intended to plant less soybeans and 38 percent reported no change in their intentions.

Farmers seeded an estimated 650 thousand acres to **winter wheat** last fall, down 29 percent from the 920 thousand seeded in 2003. This estimate is unchanged from the first estimate in December. As of March 27, the winter wheat crop was rated 9 percent excellent, 59 percent good, 22 percent fair, 9 percent poor and 1 percent very poor.

PLANTED ACREAGE - PRINCIPAL CROPS

Crop	Illinois		United States	
	2004	Indicated 2005	2004	Indicated 2005
Thousand acres				
Corn - All purposes	11,750	12,000	80,930	81,413
Soybeans	9,950	9,700	75,208	73,910
Winter Wheat ^{1/}	920	650	43,350	41,613
Sorghum - All purposes	85	130	7,486	7,400
Oats	55	50	4,085	4,267
All Hay ^{2/}	750	750	61,916	62,940

^{1/} Includes acreage sown preceding fall.

^{2/} Hay acres for harvest.

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ACREAGE BY DISTRICTS - ILLINOIS 2004 PLANTED & 2005 INTENTIONS

District and State	Corn		Soybeans		Wheat	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
Thousand acres						
Northwest	1,888	1,933	1,053	997	40	27
Northeast	1,113	1,148	792	766	56	38
West	1,123	1,143	927	908	43	25
Central	1,618	1,663	1,262	1,223	27	25
East	1,616	1,559	1,399	1,448	49	38
W. Southwest	1,616	1,666	1,304	1,251	114	82
E. Southeast	1,595	1,631	1,598	1,555	149	109
Southwest	554	606	849	804	286	219
Southeast	627	651	766	748	156	87
ILLINOIS	11,750	12,000	9,950	9,700	920	650

UNITED STATES PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS FOR 2005

Corn planted for all purposes is estimated at 81.4 million acres, up one percent from 2004 and four percent above 2003. If realized, this would be largest corn acreage since 1985. Expected acreage is up from last year throughout much of the Corn Belt and southern Great Plains. However, growers in most states in the Delta, Southeast, and northern Great Plains intend to decrease their corn acreage as producers are switching to other more profitable crops due to low corn prices and high fuel and fertilizer costs.

Soybean growers intend to plant 73.9 million acres in 2005, down two percent from last year's record high acreage. Of the 31 soybean producing states, growers in 16 states intend to plant fewer acres this year, while producers in 11 states intend to plant more acres than in 2004. The largest acreage declines are in the Dakotas, where low soybean prices

have some farmers shifting to other crops. Large declines in soybean acreage are also expected in the Delta and Southeast states.

All wheat planted is expected to total 58.6 million acres in 2005, down two percent from 2004. If realized, this would be the lowest planted acreage since 1972. Winter wheat planted area for the 2005 crop is 41.6 million acres, down four percent from 2004. Of the total, about 30.5 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 6.6 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 4.5 million acres are White Winter. The 2005 other spring wheat planted acreage is estimated at 14.4 million, up four percent from last year. Of the total, about 13.7 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. Area planted to Durum wheat is intended to total 2.61 million acres, up two percent from the previous year.



MARCH 1 GRAIN STOCKS

Corn stocks in Illinois on March 1, 2005, are estimated at 1.18 billion bushels, 31 percent above March 1, 2004. The December-February disappearance totaled 473.1 million bushels, 14 percent below the same period a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 564.2 million bushels, were up ten percent from a year earlier and accounted for 49 percent of the state total. On-farm stocks were up 59 percent from March 1, 2004, to 620 million bushels. **Soybean stocks** are estimated at 227.9 million bushels, 47 percent above last year's March 1 total of 155.1 million bushels. The December-February disappearance totaled 189.7 million bushels, 24 percent above a year earlier. On-farm stocks, at 130 million bushels, were 210 percent of a year earlier and accounted for 57 percent of the total stocks. Off-farm stocks increased five percent from last year and totaled 97.9 million bushels. **Wheat stocks** are estimated at 14.1 million bushels for March 1. This is a two percent decrease from last year's total of 14.4 million bushels. Off-farm stocks, at 12.6 million bushels, accounted for 89 percent of the state total.

U.S. corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2005 totaled 6.75 billion bushels, up 28 percent from March 1, 2004. This is the highest March 1 stocks level since 1988. Of the total stocks, 4.14 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 37 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.62 billion bushels, are up 17 percent from a year ago. The December 2004-February 2005 indicated disappearance is 2.70 billion bushels, compared with 2.68 billion bushels during the same period last year. **Soybeans stored in all positions** on March 1, 2005 totaled 1.38 billion bushels, up 52 percent from March 1, 2004. Stocks stored on farms are estimated at 795 million bushels, up 123 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 586 million bushels, are up seven percent from last March. Indicated disappearance for the December 2004-February 2005 quarter totaled 924 million bushels, up 18 percent from the same period a year earlier. **All wheat stored in all positions** on March 1, 2005 totaled 981 million bushels, down four percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 305 million bushels, up 18 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 676 million bushels, are down 11 percent from a year ago. The December 2004-February 2005 indicated disappearance is 449 million bushels, down ten percent from the same period a year earlier.

GRAIN AND HAY STOCKS - MARCH 1

Crop and position 1/	Illinois		United States	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
Thousand bushels				
Corn				
On farms	390,000	620,000	3,030,000	4,137,000
Off farms	511,943	564,239	2,241,459	2,616,738
Total	901,943	1,184,239	5,271,459	6,753,738
Soybeans				
On farms	62,000	130,000	355,900	795,000
Off farms	93,137	97,899	549,947	585,974
Total	155,137	227,899	905,847	1,380,974
All Wheat				
On farms	800	1,500	257,890	304,710
Off farms	13,649	12,600	762,727	676,304
Total	14,449	14,100	1,020,617	981,014
Oats				
On farms	2/	2/	45,600	43,500
Off farms	537	503	49,414	39,026
Total	2/	2/	95,014	82,526
Sorghum				
On farms	2/	2/	21,000	33,400
Off farms	1,914	1,253	137,652	169,989
Total	2/	2/	158,652	203,389

1/ Off farm stocks include stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors.

2/ Not published.

HOGS AND PIGS

The number of hogs and pigs in Illinois on March 1, 2005 was 4.0 million, four percent more than were on hand on March 1, 2004, but one percent less than December 1, 2004. Breeding hogs on hand March 1, 2005 were estimated at 430 thousand head, five percent more than a year earlier, and market hogs, at 3.57 million head, were up four percent.

The pig crop from December 2004 - February 2005 was 1.869 million, three percent above the same period a year earlier. There were 210 thousand sows that farrowed, up two percent from a year earlier. The litter rate for the quarter was 8.90 pigs saved per litter, up slightly compared to the previous quarter's rate of 8.85.

Farrowing intentions for the March - May quarter of 2005 is 210 thousand, down two percent from those farrowed during this period a year earlier. The first estimate of intentions for the June - August quarter of 2005 is for 210 thousand sows to farrow, the same as in this period the previous year.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2005 was 59.9 million head. This was up one percent from March 1, 2004, but down one percent from December 1, 2004. Breeding inventory, at 5.94 million head, was down slightly from both March 1, 2004 and last

quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.0 million head, was up one percent from last year, but down one percent from last quarter.

The December 2004 - February 2005 U.S. pig crop, at 25.5 million head, was up two percent from 2004 and up four percent from 2003. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.85 million head, up one percent from last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 8.94 for the December 2004 - February 2005 period, compared to 8.85 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.87 million sows farrowed during the March - May 2005 quarter, unchanged from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2004, but one percent below 2003. Intended farrowings for June - August 2005, at 2.88 million sows, are down one percent from the same period in both 2004 and 2003. The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 39 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 37 percent last year.

HOGS & PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBERS, MARCH 1, 2004-2005

	Illinois			Iowa			United States		
	2004	2005	2005 as % of 2004	2004	2005	2005 as % of 2004	2004	2005	2005 as % of 2004
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Breeding	410	430	105	1,040	1,080	104	5,961	5,941	100
Market	3,440	3,570	104	14,460	15,120	105	53,558	53,957	101
Under 60 lbs.	1,260	1,360	108	4,510	4,430	98	19,823	19,817	100
60-119 lbs.	820	830	101	4,000	4,230	106	12,954	13,087	101
120-179 lbs.	750	770	103	3,250	3,490	107	11,205	11,430	102
180 lbs. & over	610	610	100	2,700	2,970	110	9,578	9,624	100
Total	3,850	4,000	104	15,500	16,200	105	59,520	59,899	101

HOGS & PIGS: FARROWINGS & PIG CROP, 2004-2005

	Illinois			Iowa			United States		
	2004	2005	2005 as % of 2004	2004	2005	2005 as % of 2004	2004	2005	2005 as % of 2004
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Sows Farrowing									
Dec.-Feb. 1/	205	210	102	410	445	109	2,836	2,851	101
Mar.-May	215	210 2/	98	430	450 2/	105	2,870	2,870 2/	100
Jun.-Aug.	210	210 2/	100	440	440 2/	100	2,905	2,880 2/	99
Sep.-Nov. 1/	205	205	100	440	450	102	2,856	2,852	100
Pig Crop									
Dec.-Feb. 1/	1,814	1,869	103	3,567	3,961	111	25,105	25,489	102
Sep.-Nov. 1/	1,814	1,814	100	3,872	4,005	103	25,488	25,558	100
Pigs Per Litter									
Dec.-Feb. 1/	8.85	8.90	—	8.70	8.90	—	8.85	8.94	—
Sep.-Nov. 1/	8.85	8.85	—	8.80	8.90	—	8.93	8.96	—

1/ December and September through November of prior year.

2/ Intentions.

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WOOL PRODUCTION

Illinois wool production in 2004 totaled 405,000 pounds, three percent above production in 2003. The number of sheep and lambs shorn in 2004 was 60,000, up three percent from the previous year. The average price per pound for wool, at \$0.26, was up \$0.03 from 2003. Value of wool production increased to \$105,000 from \$91,000 in 2003.

Shorn wool production in the **United States** during 2004 was 37.6 million pounds, down two percent from 2003. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 5.07 million head, down slightly from 2003. The average price paid for wool sold in 2004 was \$0.80 per pound for a total value of \$29.9 million, up from \$28.1 million in 2003.

WOOL PRODUCTION AND VALUE, 2003-2004

State	Illinois		United States	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
Sheep shorn (000) head	58.0	60.0	5,074.0	5,073.0
Weight/fleece (pounds)	6.8	6.8	7.5	7.4
Production (000 lbs.)	395	405	38,299	37,622
Price/pound (dollars)	0.23	0.26	0.73	0.80
Value (000 dollars)	91	105	28,126	29,931

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in Illinois totaled 158 million pounds during February 2005, down four percent from last year. The number of milk cows on farms averaged 105,000 head, down 3,000 from this same time in 2004. Milk per cow averaged 1,500 pounds, 20 pounds below February 2004.

Estimated milk production during February in the United States totaled 13.5 billion pounds, down one percent from February 2004. Production per cow averaged 1,498 pounds during February 2005, down 14 pounds per cow from a year earlier. There was an estimated average of 9.0 million head in the United States during February 2005, down 13 thousand head from 2004.

MILK PRODUCTION: ILLINOIS & UNITED STATES, FEBRUARY 2004-2005

		February					
		Illinois			United States		
		2004	2005	2005 as % of 2004	2004	2005	2005 as % of 2004
Milk Production:							
Number of milk cows	Head (000)	108	105	97	8,993	8,980	100
Milk production per cow	Lbs.	1,520	1,500	99	1,512	1,498	99
Total milk production	Mil. lbs.	164	158	96	13,595	13,450	99

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